

23 APR 1965

Honorable J. W. Fulbright
Chairman
Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing you in response to your recent request for the Agency's views on S. Con. Res. 17, expressing the sense of the Congress that Soviet persecution of Jews and other persons because of their religion be condemned.

While it would not be appropriate for this Agency to comment on the propriety of Congressional enactment of this resolution, we are pleased to provide the Committee with some factual information which the Committee might find useful.

In the past year, there have been signs that the Soviet regime is concerned to improve its public image by gestures calculated to "disprove" charges of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. This trend was apparent well before Khrushchev's ouster in October 1964 and had continued under the new leadership. The Jewish community in Minsk, a city visited frequently by western tourists, was granted unusual permission last fall to purchase alternate quarters when their old synagogue was torn down to make way for a housing development.

The press campaign concerning economic crimes, in which Jews were often the accused, has been significantly reduced. Two Jews convicted of economic crimes last year have been officially exonerated, with due publicity accorded their cases in the central press. There have also been announcements of plans to increase publication of Soviet authors who write in the Yiddish language, and a Russian-Yiddish dictionary has been promised for later this year.

The superficiality of these gestures is suggested, however, by the fact that a western correspondent was able to find only one bookstore in the city of Moscow which had received any copies of a recently announced collection of Yiddish prose, and it had received only 80 copies. There are an estimated 500,000 Jews in Moscow.

Along with all other religions, Judaism continues to be a target in the anti-religious campaign, and anti-Semitic articles sporadically appear in the provincial press under the guise of atheist propaganda. Jews are still the only officially recognized national minority in the Soviet Union lacking their own schools, newspapers, publishing houses, and permanent theaters.

I hope that this information will be of help to the Committee in its consideration of S. Con. Res. 17.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised it has no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Faithfully yours,

SIGNED

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

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Rewritten: OGC/LC/LLM:rm (5 April 1965)

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Deputy Director Intelligence

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United States Senate

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February 8, 1965

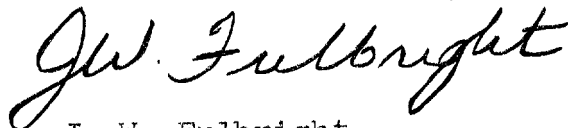
The Honorable John A. McCone
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCone:

Enclosed is a copy of S. Con. Res. 17
submitted on February 2, 1965 by Senator
Ribicoff (for himself and others).

The Committee would appreciate having com-
ments on this resolution from the Central
Intelligence Agency.

Sincerely yours,



J. W. Fulbright
Chairman

Enclosure

Approved For Release 2006/10/18 : CIA-RDP67B00446R000400150003-8

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

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John Fulbright
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The Honorable John A. McCone
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Approved For Release 2006/10/18 : CIA-RDP67B00446R000400150003-8

89TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 17

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 2, 1965

Mr. RIBICOFF (for himself, Mr. ALLOTT, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BOGGS, Mr. BREWSTER, Mr. BURDICK, Mr. BYRD of Virginia, Mr. BYRD of West Virginia, Mr. CANNON, Mr. CASE, Mr. CLARK, Mr. COOPER, Mr. DODD, Mr. DOMINICK, Mr. DOUGLAS, Mr. FANNIN, Mr. FONG, Mr. GRUENING, Mr. HART, Mr. HARTKE, Mr. HOLLAND, Mr. HRUSKA, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. JAVITS, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. KUCHEL, Mr. LAUSCHE, Mr. LONG of Missouri, Mr. MAGNUSON, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. MCCLELLAN, Mr. MCGEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. McNAMARA, Mr. METCALF, Mr. MILLER, Mr. MONDALE, Mr. MONRONEY, Mr. MONTOKA, Mr. MORSE, Mr. MORTON, Mr. MOSS, Mr. MUNDT, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. NELSON, Mrs. NEUBERGER, Mr. PASTORE, Mr. PEARSON, Mr. PELL, Mr. PROXMIRE, Mr. RANDOLPH, Mr. SALTONSTALL, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SMATHERS, Mrs. SMITH, Mr. SYMINGTON, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. TOWER, Mr. TYDINGS, Mr. WILLIAMS of New Jersey, Mr. YARBOROUGH, and Mr. YOUNG of Ohio) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the Congress of the United States deeply believes in freedom of religion for all people and is opposed to infringement of this freedom anywhere in the world; and

Whereas abundant evidence has made clear that the Government of the Soviet Union is persecuting Jewish citizens by singling them out for extreme punishment for alleged economic of-

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fenses, by confiscating synagogues, by closing Jewish cemeteries, by arresting rabbis and lay religious leaders, by curtailing religious observances, by discriminating against Jews in cultural activities and access to higher education, by imposing restrictions that prevent the reuniting of Jews with their families in other lands, and by other acts that oppress Jews in the free exercise of their faith; and

Whereas the Soviet Union has a clear opportunity to match the words of its constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion with specific actions so that the world may know whether there is a genuine hope for a new day of better understanding among all people: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that perse-
- 3 cution of any persons because of their religion by the Soviet
- 4 Union be condemned, and that the Soviet Union in the name
- 5 of decency and humanity cease executing persons for alleged
- 6 economic offenses, and fully permit the free exercise of reli-
- 7 gion and the pursuit of culture by Jews and all others within
- 8 its borders.

89TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 17

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sense of Congress against the persecution of persons by Soviet Russia because of their religion.

By Mr. RIBICOFF, Mr. ALLOTT, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BOGGS, Mr. BREWSTER, Mr. BURDICK, Mr. BYRD of Virginia, Mr. BYRD of West Virginia, Mr. CANNON, Mr. CASE, Mr. CLARK, Mr. COOPER, Mr. DODD, Mr. DOMINICK, Mr. DOUGLAS, Mr. FANNIN, Mr. FONG, Mr. GRUENING, Mr. HART, Mr. HARTEE, Mr. HOLLAND, Mr. HRUSKA, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. JAVITS, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. KUCHEL, Mr. LAUSCHE, Mr. LONG of Missouri, Mr. MAGNUSON, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. MCCLELLAN, Mr. MCGEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MCNAMARA, Mr. METCALF, Mr. MILLER, Mr. MONDALE, Mr. MONROE, Mr. MONTGOMERY, Mr. MORSE, Mr. MORTON, Mr. MOSS, Mr. MUNDT, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. NELSON, Mrs. NEUBERGER, Mr. PASTORE, Mr. PEARSON, Mr. PELL, Mr. PROXMIRE, Mr. RANDOLPH, Mr. SALTONSTALL, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SMATHERS, Mrs. SMITH, Mr. SYMINGTON, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. TOWER, Mr. TYDINGS, Mr. WILLIAMS of New Jersey, Mr. YARBOROUGH, and Mr. YOUNG of Ohio

FEBRUARY 2, 1965

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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		SECRET	
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2	DDCI 7E12 <i>✓</i>	<i>8 Apr</i>	
3	GEN. COUNSEL		
4			
5			
6			
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	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has requested Agency comments on S. Con. Res. 17, expressing the sense of Congress that Soviet persecution of Jews be condemned.

The proposed report deals with what we know about Soviet persecution, without expressing Agency views on the resolution as such.

The Deputy Director for Intelligence originated the proposed report, and Bureau of the Budget clearance was received by telephone on 2 April 1965.

John S. Warner
Legislative Counsel

6 APR 1965
(DATE)

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FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
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ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
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FORM NO. 241
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